A STUDY ON SYMBOL USED IN YADNYA KASADACEREMONY DONE BY TENGGERESE SOCIETY ATBROMO MOUNTAIN IN PROBOLINGGO

Oleh: DIAN NOWIDRI PARAMITASARI (03360118)

This study is related to the cultural and the academic points of views. Javanese cultures contain various teaching values, which have been a source of the great interest of productive research for various academic disciplines. Most of the writers who are studying the Javanese culture are Western. Indonesian researchers give little attention in studying the Javanese culture itself. As the part of the Javanese culture the existence of “Yadnya Kasada Ceremony” will support the national culture. “Yadnya Kasada Ceremony” is held on the 14th day of Kasada at the time of the half-moon by bringing offering of crops and livestock.

The purposes of this study were to know the kinds and the meanings of symbols used in “Yadnya Kasada Ceremony”.

This study used descriptive qualitative as a research design with ethnographic approach that focused on the cultural activities particularly the “Yadnya Kasada Ceremony”. Furthermore, it was one approach applied to describe culture or aspects of culture. The research subject of this study was one person who knew well about “Yadnya Kasada Ceremony”. The research subject was a “Dukun” (sorcerer) who knew a lot about “Yadnya Kasada Ceremony” in Bromo Mountain. He was the informant. The instruments of this research were observation, documentation, and interview. The observation and documentation were conducted one time on August 26, 2007. The interviews were conducted two times, on September 1, 2007 and September 25, 2007.

The finding of this study revealed six kinds of symbols used in the “Yadnya Kasada Ceremony”. They were: (1) The flowers which meant that flowers could chase the evil or the soul of the dead people, (2) The vegetables which meant that vegetable was for thanking to God from Tenggerese society because the God had given them livelihood, (3) The fruit which meant that fruit could give prosperity for Tenggerese society, (4) The animals which meant that animals were sacrificed as the media for the soul of the dead people to reach the paradise and to make the soul of dead people not disturb the society when they did the ceremony, (5) The Rice (Tumpeng) consisted of the white rice which symbolized the purity, the red rice which symbolized returning to the origin of man, the yellow rice that symbolized there was something that managed the man’s life, the black rice which symbolized the creature of man, the green rice which symbolized the pure light of God., (6) Benzoin (Kemenyan) which meant that the smoke of benzoin could help to deliver the offering and praying from Tenggerese society for God. Basically, the meaning of “Yadnya Kasada Ceremony” was to obtain the safety, harmony and blessing from God.